



NSAC News

National Spiritualist Association of Churches, Lily Dale, New York

<https://www.nsac.org>

July 2022

Letter from the President

During the past two years many of us have struggled, suffered both physically and emotionally, and even lost loved ones during the pandemic of Covid-19. The pandemic tested us. While the losses we experienced could lead to despair, the pandemic helped us to focus on the important things in life. Though the pandemic is by no means over, there does seem to be light at the end of the tunnel.

For NSAC that light is our upcoming Convention in Phoenix, AZ. We have a wonderful arrangement with the Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel, and I hope you are all making your reservations. The rate is per room, so four can be in the room, and it includes two breakfasts. If anyone has traveled recently, you will see that our rate is definitely “below market” for an upscale hotel; moderate to budget hotels are charging much, much more per night. Our banquet this year will be a seated dinner, preceded by a cash bar to kick off the festivities, and, of course, we will have a DJ and dancing!

There are a couple of new items for this year’s Convention that you will see. Each delegate will be given a “thumb drive” containing all the documents that are received by our headquarters on a timely basis. We are trying once again to go “paperless” to the extent that is possible, so please do remember to download and print anything you may need from the NSAC website. Also available this year for the first time will be a three-part “motion” document. As you may remember, whenever a delegate wishes to amend an existing motion or make a new one, he/she is required to come to the platform and write out the motion. The parliamentarian who assisted the Connecticut State Spiritualist Association with their annual meeting provided a sample form to me, and thanks to the amazing skills of Bonnie Crosier, we will have our own!

The remembrance or memorial service will be slightly different this

year. It will be held on Wednesday evening instead of our religious service. There will be music and poetry, as well as a special gift for each attendee. In order to facilitate the reading of every name of our loved ones who have passed, we have set up a special email address: we-remember-them@mini-ster.com. Please send in your names at your earliest convenience.

Do include any title, such as reverend, and tell us how to pronounce the name. I personally know some people, like me, have challenging last names!

Also, a short reminder, no matter how passionately we may individually feel about political officials, the Supreme Court’s decisions, the upcoming midterm elections, and so forth, we cannot discuss such matters from the platform or in newsletters or official emails to our members. Our nonprofit status prohibits us from these actions, and I know none of us would want to jeopardize our status.

I look forward to seeing you in Phoenix!

With blessings and love,
Christine Krithades, J.D., OM, CH, NST
President

Dates in Spiritualism

July 2, 1892: Transition—Catherine Fox Jencken.

July 3, 1850: Event—Fox sisters’ demonstration at Barnum Hotel, NYC. Arranged by Horace Greeley.

July 6, 1890: Event—National Federation of Spiritualists formed.

July 7, 1930: Transition—Sir Arthur Conon Doyle.

July 10, 1933: Transition—Rev. E.W. Sprague. Author: *All the Spiritualism of the Christian Bible*.

July 17, 1874: Event—Sir William Crookes defends Florence Cook, famous materialization medium.

July 21, 1888 (d. 1930): Birthday—Victoria Barnes, MD (Author: MPI Advanced Course).

July 24, 1964: Transition — Arthur Findley.

Transition

Marguerite "Peggy" Gutt

December 25, 1933—June 25, 2022



We wish to let you know that Rev. Marguerite Gutt has transitioned to Spirit. Raised in a Spiritualist family, she was a wonderful resource about the evolution of

Spiritualism, particularly in Michigan.

Following her ordination through the NSAC in 1999, and the passing of her beloved husband the Reverend Stan Gutt a few years later, she replaced him as Pastor of First Spiritual Temple of Royal Oak, MI. She spent many years serving Spiritualism as a board member for the Michigan State Spiritualist Association and the Morris Pratt Institute.

In 2006, she was named Michigan State Spiritualist of the Year. She became a National Spiritualist Teacher and was active in the service clubs of the NSAC. She was also a Parliamentarian who was always willing to share her working knowledge of *Robert's Rule of Order*.

While always a “dignified lady,” those who loved her also fondly recall her warmth (even as she held them to a high standard) and a sharp sense of humor. Perhaps the twinkle we will miss seeing in her eyes was from the spark emanating from the rapidly processing gears in her mind? Her passing will not end our loving her—but will only alter the way we communicate.

On June 28 and 29, the Visitation and Funeral Service were held at the Gramer Funeral Home in Clawson, WI. For further details, see <https://www.gramerfuneralhome.com/obituary/marguerite-gutt>

Northern Lake Michigan Spiritualist
Camp, Bay Shore, MI
and Golden Rule Spiritualist Church,
Bay Shore, MI

MPI News and August Zoom Class

Morris Pratt Institute is pleased to present an important series of classes that will contribute to helping your church or center remain healthy and vibrant in these uncertain times.

Helping to Clear Conflict in Churches. Extended workshop on three Thursdays, August 11, 18, 25 at 7-9 PM ET (6-8 PM CT, 5-7 PM MT, 4-6 PM PT). Tuition is \$75.00. Taught by Rev. Bonnie Crosier.

Join Bonnie as she helps to identify destructive behavior within a congregation as well as identify specific behaviors held by the people who tend to create conflict. How far will a congregant go to destroy a church? Why are our clergy under attack at times?

To keep a church emotionally healthy, those serving in church leadership roles should learn to identify destructive behaviors. It is imperative that the leaders learn how to understand the individuals who attempt to cause conflict within the church. It's not *if* this would happen in your church ... it's *when*.

The workshop will be held in three parts. Exercises will be given to those attending that will give firsthand experience in various scenarios. Each attendee will learn what is normal and abnormal behavior and how to detect the early warning signs that could lead to conflict in the church.

Each attendee will need to purchase and have read *Clergy Killers* by G. Lloyd Rediger. The link to order this book follows: <https://www.amazon.com/Clergy-Killers-Guidance-Pastors-Congregations/dp/0664257534>.

Pay through PayPal to receive link: https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/morrispratt1902?country.x=US&locale.x=en_US&fbclid=IwAR3KN3VzLQCfI7jrfoF05fqUHStXP6Q_rM9bUfdHJ1gFBkXDnZgQVB3--s or call 414-774-2994.

Stay tuned for information on future classes such as How to Teach, Dreams and Spiritualism, The Nine Principles, and so much more. In addition, it has been brought to our attention that the email info@morrispratt.org email is not functioning correctly at this time. If you have emailed the office and not heard a response, please email us at mpratt@execpc.com. This email will

also reach us. Thank you for your understanding.

In addition, don't forget to register for the 2022-2023 Ministerial Skills Program before October 15, 2022. Please email mpratt@execpc.com to get an application with dates and times. The first week will be on Zoom in November, and second week will be held in person in March 2023 in Milwaukee WI.

Stacy Kopchinski
MPI Administrator

July/August TNS Summit Digital Subscription Instructions

The online publishing platform website *Issuu.com* is now accepting purchases of the *The National Spiritualist Summit* as a digital subscription for \$25.00 per year (six issues) and \$5.00 per individual issue.

If you wish to receive printed magazines, you need to contact me directly. The cost of a printed magazine is now \$15.00 per copy.

You cannot just go to the Issuu.com website to look or search for how to purchase our magazine; it will not be there. You must use the link I give you.

To purchase a digital subscription for one year (six issues) or just the digital copy of the July/August 2022 issue, use this link: https://www.issuu.com/nsacpublications/docs/julyaug_2022_issu_final2

When you click on this link, you should see a preview page with a picture of the *Summit* cover. There is a greenish oblong button stating "BUY 5.00 USD." Click this button and you should see a purchase page. At the top, there is a box stating "Get more. Pay less." Make sure to check off the box "Get 6 issues for 25 USD" to get the discounted subscription rate.

Then fill out the remaining spaces for email and payment information.

The screenshot shows the Issuu.com checkout process. On the left, there's a preview of the 'TNS Summit Jul/Aug 2022' magazine cover for \$5 USD. On the right, the 'Payment and Purchase Details' section is active. It includes a 'Get more. Pay less.' section with a checkbox for 'Get 6 issues for 25 USD (New save 5 USD)'. Below that, there's a 'Purchasing as' field with a dropdown menu, a 'Not your? Switch account' link, and fields for 'Cardholder's name' and 'As it appears on card'. At the bottom, there's a 'Card Details' section with a card number field and a 'BUY' button.

Note that the link to purchase a digital subscription or digital issue changes after each new issue is posted, every other month.

If you wish to purchase a digital copy of the Mar/April or May/June 2022 issues and you have not yet purchased a digital subscription, email me for the separate links for these issues.

Below is a link with step-by-step process to purchase our publication on Issuu.com: <https://www.help.issuu.com/hc/enus/articles/5772750470043Purchase-Content-on-Issuu>

Please contact me with any questions or if further information is needed.

Frank Kotowski, Editor
nsactns@nsac.org 631-316-1588

Spiritual Healing Requests

Spirit healings result from law-governed forces being put into operation following the sending forth of a thought directive (prayer). Spirit guides and doctors will diagnose the trouble and its cause, attention being directed to overcoming the cause, and then removing the symptoms.

It is unusual, but no names were submitted to the Spiritual Healing Center for this month's issue. However, we would still request that you set time aside each day to send healing thoughts for friends and loved ones so that they may receive from Spirit that which is for their highest and best needs.

Your healing prayers are needed and benefit others in ways we may never know.

Prayer for Spiritual Healing

I ask the great unseen healing force to remove all obstructions from my mind and body and to restore me to perfect health. I ask this in all sincerity and honesty, and I will do my part.

I ask this great unseen healing force to help both present and absent ones who are in need of help and to restore them to perfect health. I put my trust and love in the power of God.

To request Spiritual Healing

In order to respect personal privacy, you first must obtain permission from the person, or from their caretaker, to be placed on the Spiritual Healing list. Then notify the Spiritual Healing Center. Spiritual healing is directed to a specific individual. To list more than one individual from a household or group, submit first name and the initial of the last name of each person. Names will be listed for two months unless removal sooner is requested. Names may be resubmitted if need continues.

Spiritual Healing Center
nsachealing@nsac.org

Who's Not Sitting in Your Seats?

Zoom Event Date: Tuesday, September 20

Event Time: 5 PM ET; 6 PM CT; 7 PM MT; 8 PM PT

Presenter: Rev. Bonnie Crosier

Sponsored by: Love of Spirit Spiritualist Church, NSAC, Bloomington, IL

Congregations are dwindling in every denomination but not every church. How can some churches have more congregants than physical space allows when others wonder if half of their chairs will be filled? Loss in membership and congregants seems to be the concern in many churches, causing some to make the difficult decision to combine congregations, or even worse, to close. Traditional means of growing attendance are proving to lose their effectiveness. Many churches in various congregations are attracting participants representing the generation reflective of the type of service they provide.

Increasing church congregations has become a challenge for churches that do not understand the psychosocial aspects of each generation. Do you know what Generations X, Y, Z, and A are seeking for spiritual care and exploration? Younger generations are looking for something different in spiritual services from the concept of church that has worked for Baby Boomers. And in return, Baby Boomers are accustomed to the traditions that are challenging Gen Y and Z, who find those services irrelevant and lacking in personal meaning.

How does your church cater to those who aren't sitting in your seats and still fulfill the current congregation the personal spiritual support to which they are accustomed? How does a pastor or pastoral committee relate to the congregants of any age? How does the pastor or pastoral committee ensure a sermon will make sense to everyone in attendance? These are important questions that the majority of our churches are having a hard time answering.

Love of Spirit Spiritualist Church, NSAC invites you to attend this special presentation that will give you a better understanding about the younger generations.

So, save the date for Tuesday, September 20 from 6 to 8 PM CT. Bonnie will present to those in attendance valuable information that will explain the importance of understanding *who is not sitting in your seats*. If your church isn't bringing in younger congregants, this event is for you. Bonnie will provide a class overview for each attendee when the Zoom class has ended.

To attend this presentation and receive your Zoom link, follow the Eventbrite link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/whos-not-sitting-in-your-seats-tickets-376555205757>

Love of Spirit Church and Rev. Bonnie are not charging for this class; however, accepted donations will be contributed to the NSAC 2022 Convention in the form of a sponsorship. Donations can be made through the Love of Spirit website or the QR code provided here: <https://www.yourloveofspirit.com/giving.php>.



Indicate your donation by adding SEATS on PayPal.

Reminders

August 1: *Credential Renewal Application* due to church secretary from Ordained Ministers and National Spiritualist Teachers.

August 31: *Annual Reports (Departments and Committees)* must be postmarked no later than 8/31.

August 31: *Convention Delegate Credential Forms* from each auxiliary due at NSAC. Check for earlier due date if member of state association.

October 9-14: NSAC Convention 2022, Phoenix, Arizona

NSAC News

Published monthly by the National Spiritualist Association of Churches, 13 Cottage Row, P.O. Box 217, Lily Dale, New York 14752, 716-595-2000, www.nsac.org, nsacinfo@nsac.org.

Deadline: Items to be included in the current upcoming month must be submitted to the Publications Department at Dept.pub@nsac.org no later than three days prior to the first day of the upcoming month.

Subscriptions: Make a request by email (Subject: NSAC News Request) from the address to which you want NSAC News sent. Your request must include: your name; and your church or camp name. A monthly email notice will contain a link to the NSAC website page from which a PDF copy can be viewed and downloaded.